



Water Tenders P. O. Box 402 Woodinville, WA 98072

The King County Charter Review Commission
The Metropolitan King County Council

Re: The proposed Open Space Amendment to the King County Charter

Water Tenders strongly supports the proposed Open Space Amendment to the King Charter. We have supported the public ownership of riparian and habitat lands in our community, the Bear Creek Basin and across the County. A stronger level of protection for these properties is entirely appropriate – in fact it is what we expected and hoped was already there.

We have supported conservation of the natural resources in our area in many ways including putting our own properties into the PBRs Current Use Taxation Program, helping the County maintain many of the properties it owns and completing and maintaining restoration projects. Adding this extra layer of protection makes us feel our efforts are secure for generations to come.

Some of our members actually own property that has King County owned conservation easements that are included in the inventory of high conservation value properties and they are very pleased with this extra level of protection. This makes having the County own a conservation easement feel much more meaningful and secure.

We urge you to place this on the November 2008 ballot. There is tremendous support and we feel passage of the measure is likely. As King County budget issues grow, pressures on these lands will only increase and adding the protection before the threat is manifest makes good sense and is good management.

Thank you again. We urge your support of this Charter Amendment

Sincerely,

Shirley Doolittle Egerdahl
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